

Weekly Police Beat for the week ending September 8, 2017

Village Listserve Abuzz About Package Thefts

4 deliveries missing from 2 homes on Kirkside

Today on the listserve, some west side residents commiserated about missing packages that had been delivered to their doors. The residents had not yet made reports to the Village Police Department, and the police were unaware of the possibility of a crime trend until seeing the posts on the listserve.

As soon as the police became aware of the problem, the Department alerted all officers and dispatchers to be on the lookout. The Chief also reached out to the Montgomery County Police and the Metropolitan Police to alert them of our concerns and to see if they were experiencing a similar pattern; they were not.

To reduce the chances that a package that you are expecting will be stolen, we advise you to consider the following:

- Have your shipper hold packages at their facility or store to be picked up later. Even after a package has been shipped and is on the way to your house, you can redirect it to be held at the shipper's distribution center using their online features.
- Have shipments sent to your office or another address (family member; neighbor) if you won't be home when the package will be delivered.
- At a minimum, sign up for text message updates; you will receive a message very soon after the item is dropped at your house. With that information, you can promptly bring the package inside to reduce the likelihood of theft.
- Call the Village Police Department (301-654-7300) immediately if you believe that a delivered package has been stolen.

Police Receive Complaints About Cars Passing Stopped School Buses on Brookville Road

See the below graphic to review the law about stopped school buses

Schools are back in full swing now, and children and school buses are everywhere during our commutes. Recently, Village Police received a complaint that cars on Brookville Road are passing stopped school buses when the buses are actively loading or unloading children with red lights flashing. This is dangerous and illegal.

Village police officers will be strictly enforcing the law that prohibits vehicles from passing a stopped school bus when its red lights are flashing. Please pay attention wherever you drive and heed the school bus law.

For the drivers in your household, below is a graphic which explains when you may not pass a school bus. Please review it and share it with all of the drivers in your home.

